Roman History (General Section – Cannot Be Retaken)

Prof. Giuseppe Zecchini

***COURSE AIMS AND INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES***

The course is 30 hours long. The aim is to combine home study from a textbook with a course of lectures on key topics in Roman history, mainly focusing on the development of modern studies into ancient Rome.

*Knowledge and understanding.*

At the end of the course, students will: have an overview of Roman history and good knowledge of key related issues; and understand the most important developments in Roman history with a particular focus on the development of modern studies.

*Applying knowledge and understanding*

At the end of the course, students will be able to: contextualise the events of Roman history in space and time; critically approach issues related to Roman history. They will also know the main modern studies on the most important issues in Roman history.

***COURSE CONTENT***

Main lines of development and topics in Roman history from its origins to the 5th century A.D.

***READING LIST***

1. Lecture notes.

2. Course book for the general section:

M. Pani-E. Todisco, *Storia romana: dalle origini alla tarda antichità,* Rome, Carocci, 2008.

M. Mazza (edited by), *Storia romana*, Edizioni Il Prisma, Catania 2013 (last three chapters).

***TEACHING METHOD***

Lectures.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

Assessment will be based on a conventional oral examination. It will consist of a first part with, on average, four questions on the book for home study, which examines the general section from an essentially political science perspective (political thinking, political systems, more detailed study of the crisis in the Republic and transition to a Principality); students who pass this first part will take the second part in the form of one/two questions on the single-subject course: these questions will be based on reading and commenting on an excerpt from an ancient source (in its original language for those students who are majoring in Classics).

Students’ answers to each individual question will be assessed in terms of: a) clarity and brevity; b) a mastery of the technical jargon specifically required by this subject; c) the accuracy of the spatiotemporal references required to set the historical ‘fact’ in its context; d) skill at interpreting ancient texts and commenting on them suitably; e) reference, even for those students who do not know classical languages, to technical terms in Greek and/or Latin used by the sources that have been read and commented on at lectures.

Overall assessment will be calculated as the average of the marks received for the two parts of the examination.

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

1. Students are advised to use an historical atlas to become familiar with ancient geography.

2. The examination on both the general section and advanced module must be taken to gain 12 CFUs for a one-year course.

In the event that the health emergency should continue, both teaching activities and any forms of learning monitoring, both in progress and final, will be provided also remotely through our University's BlackBoard platform, the Microsoft Teams platform and any other tools envisaged and notified at the beginning of the course, so as to ensure the full achievement of the formative objectives set out in the study plans and, at the same time, the safety of our students.

Further information can be found on the lecturer's webpage at http://docenti.unicatt.it/web/searchByName.do?language=ENG or on the Faculty notice board.